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Benjamin Harrison, who, for the reasons given above, was unwilling to serve. The Lords of Trade recommended Stevens Thomson, son of Sir William Thomson, with a salary of one hundred pounds, payable out of her Majesty's revenue in Virginia. Thomson was educated at the university, and studied law in the Middle Temple. On the 10th of August, 1704, he waited on the Board of Trade at Whitehall, and they gave him a letter recommending him to the Governor's protection and encouragement in the execution of the Attorney-General's office. He arrived in Virginia not long after. One memorial of his decisions has come down to us in connection with the famous case of Grace Sherwood, of Princess Anne county, who was tried for a witch. He died about 1714. He brought with him to Virginia his wife, Dorothea, who died in Williamsburg July 12, 1713, and five children, Mary, Elizabeth, who died in Williamsburg July 14, 1713; William, Ann and Stevens. He had a son born later in Virginia named Taunton, but all the children died without issue except Anne, who became her father's sole heir, and in 1721 married Col. George Mason, of Gunston Hall, in Stafford county. George Mason, the famous author of the Virginia Bill of Rights and first State constitution, was her son.

HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL NOTES.

BEDFORD COUNTY OFFICERS.

At a Court held for Bedford County, Nov. 27, 1758. Present, William Callaway, Saml. Hairston, Rich^{d}. Stith, Robt. Baber, Jos. Rentfro, Richd Callaway, Zackary Burnley, Charles Talbot, W^{m}. Mead, & Jeremiah Early, Gentlemen, Justices.

W^{m}. Callaway, County Lt., Charles Talbot, Capt., Jos. Rentfro, Capt., & John Quarles, Capt. of the Militia of Bedford county, took the oaths to the Gov^{t}. & subscribed the Test etc.

At a Court held for Bedford County, June 25, 1771. Present Robert Ewing, Francis Callaway, W^{m}. Trigg, Gross Scruggs, Gentlemen, Justices.

John Quarles, Esq., County Lt., took the usual oaths to his Majesty's person, & Government, & repeated & subscribed the Test.

At a Court held for Bedford County, Nov. 24, 1778. This

Court doth recommend to his Excellency the Gov. Col. James Callaway for County Lt. (in room of Col. John Quarles, who begs leave to resign).

At a Court held for Bedford County, Dec. 28, 1778. James Callaway County Lt., qualified acc^e to Law.—*Communicated by Mrs. Robert B. Claytor.*

JAMESTOWN ISLAND.—My husband, Capt. R. B. Claytor, was stationed in 1861 on Jamestown Island, and he says *at low tide*, about seventy-five yards east of the old church, there would be visible the brick walls of an old house, and from these walls his men obtained bricks for the fireplaces and chimneys of the tents. You may know all about these walls, but as there is constantly going on an effort to locate the old places that I thought it would not be out of place to mention this fact.—*Communicated by Mrs. R. B. Claytor.*

COLLEGE WALLS.—"The following names, initials and dates are to be found at this time upon the walls of the College. The letters and figures in parentheses have been supplied from the catalogue: J. Minge; G. Smith; G. H. J. H(ubard), 1752; N. R. 1747; John Marshall, probably in two places, 1779; G. W(ythe); R(ichard) K(ennon), 1729 (upside down); R. G(est), 1789; W. Tyler, 1785; J. S(wann), 1762; N. Burwell, 1771; Lee; C. M. T.; R. L(ewis). On the Brafferton, W. B(yrd), 1723, Feb. 28, 1860."—*Robert J. Morrison.* (Professor Morrison was formerly professor in the College.)

GLOUCESTER COUNTY PLAT BOOK.—An old plat book at the court-house shows, among others, the following surveys:

1. A plat of 396 acres in Petsworth Parish, which Capt. Thomas Reade, of the same county, entered March 17, 1734, beginning at Mr. Edward Wiatt's line, bounded by Major John Washington's land, and the land of Mr. Gwyn Reade, Thomas and John Reade.

2. A plat of 1100 acres, patented September 2, 1652, by Capt. Peter Ransone; Bald Eagle Neck, of 400 acres, patented 20 Xber, 1667, and 30 acres, patented by Capt. James Ransone (son of Peter), 26 April, 1704. Surveyed by John French for George Ransone, 8th September, 1745. The plat shows 4 divisions: (1) 400 acres, James Ransone's part, Madam Ransone's house; (2) 350 acres, William Ransone's part; (3) George Ransone's part,

Peter Ransone's house; (4) 300 acres bounding on Capt. Dudley's great pine.

3. A plat showing parts belonging to the (4) sisters, Mrs. Frances Cooke, Mrs. Ann Cooke, Mrs. Susanna, wife of John Perrin, and Elizabeth, wife of Capt. Francis Tomkins. Dated 1749.

4. A plat surveyed January 29, 1751, for Capt. Gwyn Read, by order of John Boswell, of London, shows division between Jane Boswell and John Boswell.

5. A plat surveyed December 26, 1751, for Harry Gwyn, 162 acres in Kingston Parish, showing Capt. Gwyn Read's part and Harry Gwyn's part.

6. November 19 and 20, 1754. Surveyed the plat of land lying in Gloucester county, in Ware Neck, on North River, at the request of Mr. Richard Ransone, beginning at a large pine on North River. By John Throckmorton, surveyor.

7. Survey, in 1804, of the land of Roe Wyatt, deceased: (1) The Dower, (2) Frances Wiatt, (3) Squire Wiatt, (4) Samuel Wiatt, (5) Overton Wiat, (6) William Wiatt.

8. Survey of Isaac Singleton's land, 1804, between John Isaac, Thomas and William Singleton.

9. Survey of Charles Tomkies' land: (1) Dower, (2) Charles Tomkins, (3) James Overton in right of his wife, (4) Hugh Gwyn in right of his wife, (5) Mary D. Tomkies, (6) William D. Tomkies, (7) John C. Tomkies. (About 1804. Date was not taken down.)

SPOTSWOOD-BRAYNE.—There is on record at Orange Courthouse a deed dated Feb. 23, 1746, between Rev. John Thompson, of Orange county, in the Colony of Virginia, clerk, and Butler, his wife, late widow and relict of the Hon. Alexander Spotswood, Esq., deceased, of the first part, and the Rev. Robt. Rose, of Essex county, in said colony, and Elliott Benger, of the county of Spotsylvania, Esq., of the second part, and John Spotswood, of the county of Orange, eldest son and heir and devisee, of the said Alexander Spotswood, of the third part; Robert Spotswood, of the said county of Orange, second son of the said Alexander Spotswood, of the fourth part, and Anna Catherine Spotswood and Dorothea Spotswood, daughter of the said Alexander Spotswood, of the fifth part, to Richard Brayne. The deed re-

cites deeds of lease and release executed 5th and 6th of March, 1724, by said Spotswood, late his Majesty's Governor, but then of the parish of St. Martins in the Field, in the county of Middlesex, England, to Richard Brayne, of St. Margaret Westminster, Esq., and Robert Carey, of the city of London, Merchant, in view of his contemplated marriage to said Butler by the name of Butler Brayne, youngest daughter of Richard Brayne and Anne his wife, etc., also that Spotswood died June 7, 1740.

WOOD.—I am anxious to know when and how Col. James Wood, father of Governor James Wood, of Virginia, received his title of colonel.—*Joseph J. Carey,* 28 *East* 127*th St., New York.*

HARRISON.—Can any one inform the editor as to the present ownership of the portrait of the second Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, of Brandon, who was Miss Page?

PEARSON-WEST.—I am much gratified that the compiler of the Alexander Family, in your issue for July, 1901, p. 64, is correcting the record of the Pearson and West families as given in my "Ewell Family," *Virginia Genealogies,* p. 342.

My authorities for connecting Col. Roger West with the family of the great artist, Benjamin West, were the "Alexander Family," printed in the *Richmond Standard* July 24, 1880, and "West Family," in the *Richmond Critic* August 9, 1890. The latter was given on the authority of Rev. Douglas Forrest, D. D., esteemed an expert genealogist, and great-grandson of Col. Roger West, and who fully approved the deduction.

My Pearson data, in foot-note, page 342, and in "Excursus-Pearson," page 354, *Virginia Genealogies,* is beyond dispute, except as to the connection with Virginia.—*Horace Edwin Hayden.*